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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/932,119	08/16/2001	Steven Webster	C01-013	4244

23459 7590 07/23/2004

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EXAMINER

SHAH, SANJIV

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2176

DATE MAILED: 07/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/932,119		WEBSTER ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Sanjiv D. Shah		2176	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. New corrected drawings are required in this application because the drawings presented are not properly visible. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Seyler (Patent # 5,255,363).

Regarding claims 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 18, 23, Seyler teaches a method for creating a user interface for a spreadsheet-based software application, (See fig 1, element 14) the method comprising;

providing a spreadsheet having a plurality of standard cells displayable as standard spreadsheet cells, (See fig 6, elements A, B, C, etc) and

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a plurality of user interface cells displayable only as a window superimposed upon the standard spreadsheet cells, (Fig 9, element 41 and 48, wherein both elements are shown as window super imposed upon spreadsheet cells. Also see col. 4, lines 49-56.) providing at least one control function adapted to create the window superimposed upon the standard spreadsheet cells. (See fig 7, element 40)

A custom view function is shown in fig 6, element 38.

Regarding claims 2, 15, Seyler teaches the claimed method wherein the at least one control function is executed as a function in a spreadsheet cell. (See Fig 9, element 41 and 48.)

Regarding claim 3, Seyler teaches the claimed method wherein the user interface cells are executed by the same processor that executes the standard cells. (See fig 1, user interface is operated on same computer terminal, i.e. same processor as spreadsheet program)

Regarding claims 4, 5, Seyler teaches the claimed method, wherein the window superimposed upon the standard spreadsheet cells is opaque with respect to the standard spreadsheet cells, such that the standard spreadsheet cells cannot be seen where ever the standard spreadsheet cells are covered by the window. (See fig 6-9, element 41 and 48, the window covers two and four cells that cannot be seen as claimed)

Regarding claims 6, 7, 8, Seyler teaches the claimed method of providing at Least one wizard function adapted to manage a plurality of control functions. Also the one wizard function presents and executes in sequence the plurality of control functions as a menu wherein each control function can be independently accessed by a user. (See fig 6, elements 36, 32 and 38)

Regarding claim 9, Seyler teaches selecting control function by user as shown in fig 6. It is inherent that the sequence and functionality of the plurality of control functions are responsive to user input or selection.

Regarding claim 14, Seyler teaches a computer system comprising:
a spreadsheet having a plurality of standard cells and a plurality of user interface cells;
(See fig 6-10)
an application processor for accessing both the plurality of standard cells,
and the plurality of user interface cells; (See fig 1, element processor) and
a user interface processor, cooperative with the application processor, for
displaying the plurality of standard cells and user interface cells. (See fig 1, element processor. Since a single processor is used as a user interface and spreadsheet program)

Regarding claims 16, 17, Seyler teaches the claimed invention of control function being

a dialog function and custom view function as shown in fig 6, element 38.

Regarding claims 19, 24, Seyler teaches the control function selection as shown in fig 6, element 36, It is inherent that when element 36 is selected the cursor movement is limited to element 32, which in turn selected limits the cursor movement to element 38, which is equivalent to claimed cursor movement being limited to the subset of standard cells.

Regarding claim 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, Seyler teaches a method of claim 18, wherein grid Lines or expression lines are not displayed. (See fig 8)


Regarding claims 28, Seyler teaches the claimed invention of custom view wizard for managing a collection of custom view control functions as shown in fig 6, element 38

Regarding claims 29-31, Seyler teaches a spreadsheet program with cells. It is inherent that cells are dynamic at run time and adapts to calculation results and user input. Since the user interface is in the cells of the spreadsheet it is inherent that the user interface is dynamic and adaptable as spreadsheet.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sanjiv D. Shah whose telephone number is (703) 305-8355. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H Feild can be reached on (703) 305-9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Sanjiv D. Shah
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2176

S. Shah
July 20, 2004